



# PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

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Bureau of Community Health Systems

Jeff Andersen, Secretary

Governor Jeff Colyer, M.D.

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## Infectious Disease Regulations Updated

by Farah Ahmed, MPH, PhD  
Environmental Health Officer and State Epidemiologist  
Kansas Department of Health and Environment

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has updated Kansas Administrative Regulations that regulate the reporting of and isolation and quarantine for infectious or contagious diseases and other health conditions (K.A.R. 28-1-1 through 28-1-18). *The regulations go into effect May 11, 2018* and can be found at <http://www.kdheks.gov/epi/regulations.htm>.

Mandatory reporters include anyone licensed to practice the healing arts or engaged in a post-graduate training program approved by the state board of healing arts, licensed dentist, licensed professional nurse, licensed practical nurse, administrator of a hospital, licensed adult care home administrator, licensed physician assistant, licensed social worker, teacher or school administrator, and each person who oversees a laboratory.

*For 4-hour reportable diseases, a report must be made by telephone to the KDHE Epidemiology Hotline at 1-877-427-7317.* For all other reportable diseases, fax a Kansas Reportable Disease Form and any lab results to your local health department or to KDHE at 877-427-7318. Reportable Disease Forms are available at [http://www.kdheks.gov/epi/disease\\_reporting.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/epi/disease_reporting.html). Please consult the person at your facility who is responsible for disease reporting to ensure that they are aware of the new regulations. KDHE has made the following documents available:

- a [list of reportable diseases](#);
- a [letter outlining specific changes to the reporting requirements](#), including diseases that were added to the 4-hour reportable list, diseases removed from the 4-hour reportable list, the change requiring all non-emergency health conditions be reported in 24 hours rather than 7 days, and more;
- a [guide to the rabies control](#) requirements; and
- an [outline of the requirements](#) for isolation and quarantine of specific infectious or contagious diseases.

KDHE has staff on call each day for disease reporting and technical assistance; for urgent matters, an epidemiologist is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our Epidemiology Hotline telephone number is 877-427-7317.

We thank you for your role in keeping Kansans healthy and safe every day. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact the epidemiologist on call at 877-427-7317.

## Kansas Health Matters Annual Indicator Updates

by the Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics,  
Kansas Department of Health and Environment

During a calendar year, several indicators are updated during each quarter. The following indicators have been updated in the first quarter of 2018:

- Percentage of screened 3-12 grade students with no dental sealants
- Percentage of screened K-12 grade students with obvious dental decay
- Rate of violent crime per 1,000 population
- Ratio of children to adults
- Ratio of elderly persons and children to adults
- Ratio of elderly persons to adults
- Staffed hospital bed ratio
- Uninsured adult population rate

To view the new indicators, use the following [link](#). The second quarter indicators should be available by the end of June 2018.

## 2018 Governor's Public Health Conference - Most Attended in History

*by the Local Public Health Program,  
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*

The 2018 Kansas Governor's Public Health Conference had the highest level of attendance in its 12 year history with over 330 attendees at the general conference. It opened with the pre-conference sessions on April 3 at the Marriott in Wichita. The Family Health Pre-Conference session were skills-building session on maternal depression screening, increasing access to long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARC), screening for substance use, and more. The Public Health Pre-conference session was an interactive workshop on public health messaging led by staff from the National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO). Participants developed an elevator speech to describe their agency's work and were challenged to use a compelling message to share the value of public health and to educate policymakers and community members.

The two day general conference featured a number of state and nationally recognized keynote speakers including an opening keynote from Monte Selby challenging participants to create their best day ever, a keynote panel on building resilient communities through poverty resolution with Rebecca Lewis-Pankratz, a presentation from Dr. Karen DeSalvo on Public Health 3.0, and a keynote from Dr. Marvin Seppala on substance use disorders.

In addition to the keynote speakers, a variety of breakout sessions were held to meet the changing needs of the populations served through public health programs and initiatives. View the conference brochure [here](#) for additional information about the conference topics and speakers. Handouts and presentations from the conference are also available [online](#).

If you have speaker or topic suggestions for the 2019 Governor's Public Conference, please contact Cristi Cain at [cristi.cain@ks.gov](mailto:cristi.cain@ks.gov).



## KAFP Annual Meeting Offers Valuable CME - June 14-16

*by the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians*

The Kansas Academy of Family Physicians (KAFP) invites you to celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with them: [KAFP Annual Meeting: 70 Years Caring for Kansans](#) at the Overland Park Marriott Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas – June 14-16, 2018.

Professional Development Committee Chair, Dr. Beth Oller says, "This year's conference topics are varied. Family Physicians from many practice settings will find highly applicable clinical and practice management information. The sessions cover topics including cholesterol guidelines, opioid use and misuse, fertility, heart failure, leadership, sports medicine, and MACRA/MIPS/QPP. There will also be round table discussion on DPC, several EMRs, POCUS, ER, public health, and new physicians."

[View the full schedule here](#).

[Click here](#) to read more about special activities such as the pre-conference KSA, Wine Tasting & Auction, Fun Run and President's Dinner. The brochure can be [viewed online](#). Register to attend [online](#).

Please contact the KAFP office at 316-721-9005 or email [kafp@kafponline.org](mailto:kafp@kafponline.org) with questions about the meeting or registration. The annual meeting has been approved by the American Academy of Family Physicians for up to 15.75 Prescribed credits.



## Congratulations to the 2018 Graduating Class of the Kansas Public Health Fellowship!

*by the Wichita State University Community Engagement Institute  
and the Kansas Department Health and Environment*



At the final in-person event on April 3, participants in the Kansas Public Health Fellowship Program visited the City of Wichita Animal Services Division and discovered the complexities of creating safe alternate transportation options that promote healthy living through a roaming tour of Wichita's downtown core hosted by the City of Wichita Planning Department. Each participant also shared a poster presentation describing the technical and adaptive leadership challenges they addressed within their own organizations during the eight month program. The Kansas Public Health Fellowship is primarily funded by KDHE's Statewide Farmworker Health Program with support from the Midwestern Public Health Training Center and is facilitated by staff from KDHE and the Wichita State University Community Engagement Institute.

## Local Public Health Leadership Series

*by Jessica Fiscus, Project Manager  
WSU Community Engagement Institute*



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD) are offering a leadership development opportunity for all public health professionals for the Fall 2018 in Salina, KS.



**WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY**  
CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT  
AND RESEARCH

The purpose of the Local Public Health Leadership Series is to enhance the ability of all local health department professionals to exercise leadership in the delivery of Medicaid services to residents in their communities.

Leadership involves mobilizing others, sometimes without direct authority to do so, in an effort to address difficult community challenges. These difficult, daunting, adaptive challenges don't have a single expert or manager that can fix them. Progress can be made to address adaptive challenges but it will require learning, involvement of stakeholders and persistent efforts. Public health professionals are in key positions to provide this kind of leadership.

The Local Public Health Leadership Series will develop core knowledge and skills related to identifying and responding to adaptive challenges. The focus will be on development of leadership competencies identified by the Kansas Leadership Center: Diagnosing the Situation, Managing Self, Energizing Others and Intervening Skillfully. The Wichita State University Community Engagement Institute will serve as faculty and coaches for the series, which is modeled after the Kansas Leadership Center's training curriculum and methods.

- August 21-22
- September 24-25
- October 22-23
- November 13-14

If you are interested, click [here](#) to fill out the application. If you have any questions, please contact Kristina Helmer at [kristina.helmer@wichita.edu](mailto:kristina.helmer@wichita.edu). Deadline to apply is July 13.

## NACCHO Subject Matter Advisory Workgroup Applications Open - Deadline May 15

*by NACCHO*

The National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) invites local health department (LHD) staff to apply to help inform and guide NACCHO's projects, programs, and policies. NACCHO is currently accepting applications for the 2018-2019 subject matter advisory workgroups until May 15. All NACCHO workgroups are accepting applications for 2018-2019 with two-year terms beginning July 1, 2018 and ending on June 20, 2020. NACCHO's Workgroup members:

- play an integral part in ensuring NACCHO's policy and advocacy is grounded in the latest science and the day-to-day experience of LHDs;
- connect with peers and other subject matter experts in the field;
- gain exposure to innovative programmatic work at NACCHO and in other LHDs across the country; and
- help craft policy statements, shape strategic messaging on key subject matter areas, review tools and Model Practice applications, and share perspectives on how LHDs are addressing key public health issues.

Descriptions of each workgroup can be found online. Most workgroups meeting monthly via conference call and, pending availability of funding, may meet in person annually. Additional information about the opportunity is [available online](#). Questions regarding the opportunity should be sent to [advisorygroups@naccho.org](mailto:advisorygroups@naccho.org).



## Regional Public Health Meetings

by Teri Caudle, RN, PHN, Local Public Health Program  
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

The Regional Public Health Meetings are designed to connect local health departments with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. The second quarter of regional public health meetings in 2018 will feature three speakers: Jennifer VandeVelde, Director of Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention; Jodi Define, a vaccine representative from GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), and Robert Moser, MD, University of Kansas Medical Center. The meeting dates and locations for the second quarter are listed below:

- Southwest Region, Garden City, May 9
- Northwest Region, Oakley, May 10
- North Central Region, Beloit, May 23

Registration for the second quarter meetings is available on KS-TRAIN. If you have ideas for regional meeting topics or questions regarding the meetings, please contact Teri Caudle at [teri.caudle@ks.gov](mailto:teri.caudle@ks.gov).

## Kansas Community Health Worker Symposium – June 14

by: Alissa Rankin, Project Manager & Karina Fabela, Project Associate,  
Center for Public Health Initiatives



The Kansas Community Health Worker (CHW) Coalition is pleased to announce that the third annual Kansas Community Health Worker Symposium will be held on Thursday, June 14, 2018. This year's theme is *Cultivating Empowerment through Education, Connectivity, and Employment*. The event will be held at Wichita State University in the Rhatigan Student Center ballroom.

The symposium keynote speaker will be Naomi Cottoms, Executive Director of Tri-County Health Network in Arkansas. There will be various breakout sessions applying to each of the three theme tracts which are education, connectivity, and employment. For example, one session will offer "*Storytelling: Building Connection, Enhancing Practice*." In addition, an educational breakout session titled "You Can't be Healthy Without Good Oral Health" will be available.

The Kansas Community Health Worker Coalition would like to give thanks to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Bureau of Health Promotion as the main event sponsor. Due to their generosity and the support of the Symposium's additional sponsorships, Kansas CHWs will have travel scholarships available for application when they register. These additional sponsorships include:

- Amerigroup
- Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City
- Health ICT
- REACH Healthcare Foundation
- Sedgwick County Division of Health
- Sunflower Health Plan
- United Healthcare
- United Methodist Health Ministries Fund



Registration will open online in early May 2018 and vendor booths will also be available. For more details, contact Alissa Rankin at [alissa.rankin@wichita.edu](mailto:alissa.rankin@wichita.edu).



## Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Webinar

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Webinar on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. The next webinar will be May 22. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.

## KDHE Announces Funding Awards to Promote Walking in Local Communities

*by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment*

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) recently announced the recipients of the Governor's Council on Fitness *Walking Enhancement Funding Opportunity*. Ten communities across Kansas will receive funding to assist with local implementation of walking promotion and enhancement. This funding opportunity was made available to promote walking as a key strategy toward a healthier community.

Applicants receiving funds include:

- Barton County Health Department
- Crawford County Health Department
- Finney County Community Health Coalition
- Franklin County Health Department
- Harvey County Health Department
- Kansas Academy of Family Physicians in Sedgwick County
- CrossWinds Counseling and Wellness in Lyon and Greenwood Counties
- Mitchell County Regional Medical Foundation
- Shawnee County Health Department
- Unified Government of Wyandotte County

Awarded funding ranges from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Each applicant submitted a detailed description of proposed activities to be completed with the requested funding. Communities are using the funds to implement projects such as cross-walk improvements, trail connections, sidewalk and lighting installations, signage promoting walking, and promotional campaigns to encourage residents to engage in more active transportation and outdoor activities.

"Walking is a simple and enjoyable physical activity that most people can do," said Marlou Wegener, Chair, Governor's Council on Fitness. "By building walking into a regular routine of physical activity, people can reduce their risk of chronic disease and improve their mental health. This funding opportunity will do just that: encourage walking as a healthy behavior while allowing people to get outside and enjoy their communities."

The mission of the Governor's Council on Fitness is to encourage increased physical activity, healthy diets, and tobacco use prevention. Funding comes from KDHE through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity (State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health). This opportunity was made available to current KDHE Chronic Disease Risk Reduction (CDRR) program grantees.

## Did You Know?

*by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*



- Illnesses from mosquito, tick and flea bites more than [tripled in the United States](#) from 2004 to 2016, according to the latest [Vital Signs](#) report.
- A recent study found that [84% of local vector](#) control organizations lack at least 1 out of 5 vector control competencies and need improvement.
- State, tribal, local, and territorial health departments can use a [coordinated strategy](#) to support vector control programs and protect people from vector-borne diseases, such as West Nile virus and Lyme disease.

## When the Unexpected Occurs...Seward County Health Department Provides Support for Teen Mothers

*by Robert Pierce, The Leader & Times*



Seward County's teen pregnancy rate has been well documented. Though it does not necessarily work on the prevention of those pregnancies, a program offered through the county's health department does offer support for teen mothers. The Teen Pregnancy Targeted Case Management (TPTCM) program is for adolescents under the age of 21.

"We try to get them going towards education or employment," Mindee Limon said. "They've achieved education or employment or both."

Limon is a registered nurse at the Seward County Health Department and coordinator of the program now in its fifth year. This is Limon's first year with the program, which started with a grant from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), and six of this year's participants were recognized Tuesday at Memorial Library for achieving success in education and/or employment. Limon said the KDHE grant is the primary source of the funding, but there are other sources as well. "We also get grants for snacks and things," she said.

Limon said the class meets once a month, and she herself visits homes once a month. She said TPTCM offers mothers access to local resources, such as the Russell Child Development Center and Kansas Works. "There's child care awareness," she said. "They can get online and find out child care providers in the area. We've just kind of supported them as they finished. They've all finished high school and some secondary education."

Limon said mothers in the program are under age 21 or parenting moms with children under a year old and have Medicaid. Limon said the program does offer some help with the reduction of Seward County's pregnancy rates, one of the highest in Kansas. "This is to get them more geared towards education or employment so they can be more independent and they're less likely to just have baby number two," she said.

A case manager will help with setting and reaching goals in several areas of life including: daily living situations, education and training, employment, finances, key relationships, parenting, health and empowerment. "It's prevention and support to make them more independent to where they will work on goals of success," Limon said.

Goals for TPTCM are:

1. Reduce negative consequences of teenage pregnancy for KanCare-enrolled teens and their children.
2. Increase levels of self-sufficiency and goal-directedness relating to their own futures and that of their children.
3. Delay subsequent childbearing until completion of goals related to basic education and training or they reach 21 years of age.

The program likewise offers prenatal care, where health care workers will help mothers stay healthy during pregnancy and help babies grow healthy and strong. Case managers will help moms find affordable care as well.

Parenting skills are also part of TPTCM, as babies do not come with instructions. Mothers, though, can learn to be a great parent, and case managers can provide resources and information on how to take care of new babies. All participants receive assistance with appointment scheduling and completion of paperwork as needed. For the full story, click [here](#).

## Kansas Department of Health and Environment Awards Waste Reduction Grants

*by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment*



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Bureau of Waste Management is pleased to announce that 24 public and private applicants will receive grants in 2018 to reduce landfill disposal of solid waste. These grants were designed to support existing recycling and composting programs, and encourage the start-up of new programs especially in small and medium size communities. This year the grants totaled \$409,439.

These competitive grants are authorized by state law and funded by the \$1.00 per ton landfill tonnage fee. Hundreds of communities have received waste reduction grants from the late 1990s to the present to improve local waste reduction practices in nearly every Kansas County. These grants along with local commitments to reduce waste and years of technical training has yielded a statewide recycling rate of about 31 percent.

Each grant application required an educational component to increase awareness of the benefits associated with recycling, composting, or other waste reduction activities. For a list of grantees visit [http://www.kdheks.gov/waste/about\\_grants.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste/about_grants.html) and click the link titled "Round 1 – State Fiscal Year 2018" under the Grant Awardees heading.

For more information on KDHE's waste reduction grant opportunities and application procedures, contact the Bureau of Waste Management at (785) 296-1600, or visit [www.kdheks.gov/waste](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste).

## KDHE Announces New Environmental Bureau Directors

*by the Division of Environment, Kansas Department of Health and Environment*

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is pleased to announce two new Directors in the Bureau of Environmental Remediation (BER) and Bureau of Environment Field Services (BEFS).

Bob Jurgens is the new Director of BER. Jurgens has recently served as acting Deputy BER Director and has been at KDHE since 1998. He has Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Natural Resources from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln, specializing in groundwater hydrology. He has twenty-five years' experience in environmental consulting and the state regulatory field.

Erich Glave is the new BEFS Director. He is a native of Rolla, Kansas, and most recently served as KDHE District Environmental Administrator in Dodge City. He graduated from Saint Edward's University in Austin, Texas and did graduate work in Physical and Environmental Studies at Texas State University. He has eighteen years' experience in livestock production, worked in the regulatory field for eleven years and has worked at KDHE since 2007. Glave will be responsible for managing the district office operations, the Livestock Waste Management Section and the Watershed Management Section.

"We are pleased to have Bob and Erich leading their Bureaus here at KDHE," said Secretary Jeff Andersen. "Each has expertise in their field and the dedication needed to serve the environmental needs of all Kansans."

BER provides assessments and cleanup assistance at contaminated sites, emergency response to pollutant spills, natural disasters or coal mine subsidence, and regulatory oversight and permitting of activities at contaminated sites. They partner with local government, businesses and residents to restore contaminated property to safe conditions.

BEFS promotes best practices of environmental management to preserve the long-term integrity and balanced regulatory approach to environmental control by supporting the efforts of the other bureaus within KDHE.

BEFS partners with all communities across Kansas to address their needs or concerns. Their operations spread across six district offices (Lawrence, Salina, Hays, Dodge City, Wichita, and Chanute) as well as one satellite office (Ulysses).



**Bob Jurgens**



**Erich Glave**

## National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day - May 10

*by Cristi Cain, Director, Local Public Health Program, KDHE*



National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day will be observed on Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. This is a great time to learn more about efforts to address children's mental health and increase awareness in your community. Below is a link to a webcast hosted by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration as well as a link to resources for child trauma informed care.

At least one in five Kansas children are impacted by mental health issues. These issues lead to poor outcomes including suicide, substance abuse, inability to live independently, legal problems, school dropout, economic hardship, poor social function, and physical health problems. Many youth lack access to needed services. It is important that we help people understand the complexity of mental illness, reduce stigma, and show support for those impacted by mental health problems.

Here are some talking points:

- Research indicates that half of all cases of mental illness begin by age 14
- Promoting mental health care and early intervention will likely reduce overall health care costs
- All systems serving children must consider mental health to be as important as physical health
- Development of social, emotional and behavioral well-being is central to overall healthy development
- We need to increase promotion of effective practices that prevent and treat mental health problems in children and adolescents.

Here are some resources that may be valuable:

- [Awareness Day 2018: Partnering for Health and Hope Following Trauma](#)
- [Important Information for Children and Parents](#)
- [Resources for Child Trauma Informed Care](#)

We hope you join us in recognizing this important day!

*Sources: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, American Psychological Association, National Alliance on Mental Illness, and National Institute of Mental Health.*



## Accreditation Corner



### Franklin County Health Department Receives Special Accreditation Support Initiative Award Targeted Towards Small Health Department Accreditation

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) continues to work on reducing the [barriers for smaller health departments](#) to become accredited. As of this March, 66 local and Tribal health departments in the PHAB system serve populations of less than 50,000. Nineteen of those are already accredited and the others are somewhere in the process. Although PHAB recognizes that it can be done, they also know that additional or different technical assistance may be needed. Through funding provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), PHAB is partnering with the National Association for County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) for the first time to offer a special accreditation support initiative (ASI) opportunity for small/rural health departments through which the selected ASI sites will receive customized technical assistance to support their accreditation readiness efforts. To begin the joint process, an in-person meeting was held at the PHAB office January 24-25, 2018. The meeting brought together representatives from PHAB, NACCHO, CDC, and the 13 (2017-2018) ASI awardees, including Franklin County Health Department (all award-ees are listed below). PHAB and NACCHO will use what they learn to enhance our efforts to improve the accreditation readiness of smaller/rural health departments.

- Ashland-Boyd County Health Department, KY
- Dickey County Health District, ND
- District Health Department No. 2, MI
- Franklin County Health Department, KS
- Galion City Health Department, OH
- Harrison County Home & Public Health, IA
- Lawrence County Health Department, OH
- Madera County Public Health, CA
- Madison County Health Department, NY
- Mono County Health Department, CA
- Nantucket Health Department, MA
- Needham Public Health Department, MA
- Wyandot County General Health District, OH

Congratulations, Franklin County Health Department on being selected as an ASI site!

### Webinar - Building Your Accreditation Team - May 10

This Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) webinar will host a webinar on May 10, 2 p.m. to provide first-hand perspectives that will assist participants to:

- Explore various approaches to organizing the accreditation team effort within a health department;
- Describe strategies that accredited health departments have used to build and develop an accreditation team;
- Discuss effective strategies for engaging and developing accreditation team members;
- Describe the long-term value provided by a health department accreditation team.

[Register online](#) for the webinar.



## Preparedness Corner

### KDHE Preparedness Program Staffing Updates

Catherine Byrd recently left her position as the Preparedness Program Director. Kendra Baldrige, Director of the Bureau of Community Healthy Systems, is acting as the Interim Preparedness Program Director. Three new staff have recently joined the Preparedness Program.

Joanna Lassley has joined the bureau as the new Grant Manager for the Preparedness Program. She is a Topeka native, originally hailing from Wichita. Joanna previously worked for Topeka Civic Theatre as the Volunteer Coordinator and as the Associate Artistic/Education Director (Helen Hocker Theater), and served as Business Manager for Kansas Starbase in Topeka. She holds a BA and MBA from Baker University.



*Joanna Lassley*

Emily Wolf has joined the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Preparedness Program as the new Procedure Specialist. A Topeka native, Ms. Wolf graduated from Washburn University in 2011 with a BA in Anthropology and History. She currently studies Criminal Justice for which she anticipates earning a Master's degree in December of 2018. Ms. Wolf has been with the State of Kansas for one year and with the City of Topeka for the three years prior. In her role as Procedure Specialist, Ms. Wolf will be working to ensure an updated KDHE Emergency Operations Guide to help promote coordination between all KDHE units during emergency response and will provide continued support in the implementation of the CRMCS program for the health and medical community.



*Ann Campbell*

Corrie "Ann" Campbell is the new Training Coordinator for the KDHE Preparedness Program. Her family recently relocated from Pierre, South Dakota due to her husband's employment with the federal government. Ann's previous employer was the state of South Dakota with the Department of Transportation as the Training and Development Coordinator. Prior to her employment with the state of South Dakota she held various positions in the field of education. She was a program director for the Pierre Public School District and she was also an outreach program coordinator for an educational cooperative. She also has done consultant work for the Smithsonian Institution - National Museum of the American Indian. She has also been the Owner/Operator of a small business prior to resuming her education. Ann has a degree from Black Hills State University majoring in both Business Administration and American Indian Studies.

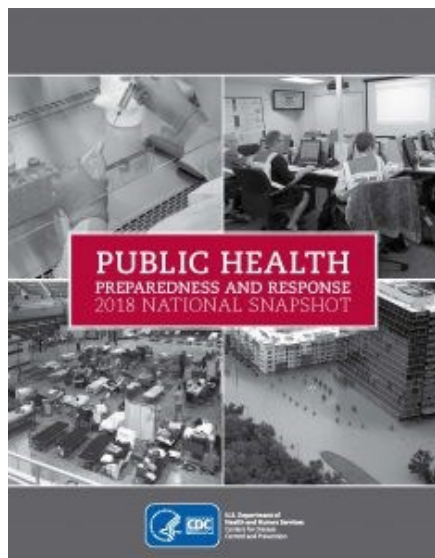
### Update to IS-800 Course

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has updated the IS-800.b course. As of April 25, 2018, this course (ID: 1011882) has been retired from KansasTRAIN. Users should instead take the updated IS-800.c (ID: 1077604) course.

This is especially important for those planning on taking the G300 and G400 courses in the future as a version of the IS-800 training is one of the prerequisites.

If you have previously completed the IS-800.b training, or any previous iterations, before the course expired, you do not need to take the new course. Your certificate will still be valid. However, users can take the IS-800.c to remain up to date on the latest information.

### CDC Releases Public Health Preparedness and Response National Snapshot



Every year, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) [Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response](#) publishes the [Public Health Preparedness and Response National Snapshot](#), an annual report that highlights the work of CDC and our partners. No matter the type, size, or cause of a public health emergency, we must work together to respond to the best of our ability. The Snapshot includes two sections:

- The [Narrative](#) describes CDC preparedness and response activities in 2016 and 2017 and demonstrates how investments in preparedness enhance the nation's ability to respond to public health threats and emergencies.
- The [Public Health Emergency Preparedness \(PHEP\) Program Fact sheets](#) provide information on PHEP funding from 2015 to 2017 and trends and progress related to the 15 public health preparedness capabilities defined in the PHEP cooperative agreement.

The report also includes information on [state and local readiness](#). For more information on this annual report, please see the following [link](#).

# Funding Opportunities

## Scholarship Opportunity for Great Plains Leadership Institute

Join the Great Plains Leadership Institute for Year 14! Applications for the Great Plains Leadership Institute are now available.

- Is this the year to strengthen your knowledge, skills, and ability to lead others?
- Could you benefit from expanded relationships with other health and well-being leaders in the region?
- Are you ready to make a greater impact within your team, organization, and community?

The Great Plains Leadership Institute is designed for emerging, mid-level and senior leaders from the Great Plains Region (Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota, and more) who play essential roles in keeping communities healthy. Scholars come from governmental public health, insurance companies, community health centers, civic and elected positions, community-based organizations, the business community and more.

**Apply today** for the Great Plains Leadership Institute. A \$2,500 Scholarship is available to Kansans accepted to the program! Priority goes to local or state health department employees. Total cost without scholarship is \$2,750. This includes tuition, training materials, lodging & meals onsite, but not travel costs to onsite trainings. There are 3 onsite sessions (2 in Nebraska City, NE approx 2 hours north of Kansas City, MO & 1 in Ashland, NE approx. 3hrs north of Kansas City, MO) Dates TBA. Scholarship approval will be confirmed AFTER the applicant has applied and been accepted to the program. Kansans must complete the Stipend/Scholarship request form at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PGVN6FN>

Additional program information is available on the program website below.

- Find the competencies and curriculum [here](#).
- Find the application materials at : <https://www.unmc.edu/publichealth/ophp/workforce/gppli/apply/materials.html>

Applications are due June 29, 2018. Visit the Institute website for more information: [www.greatplainsleadership.org](http://www.greatplainsleadership.org). Send questions to Institute Director, Katie Brandert, [kbrandert@unmc.edu](mailto:kbrandert@unmc.edu) or Brandon Grimm – GPLI Core Faculty, [blgrimm@unmc.edu](mailto:blgrimm@unmc.edu).



## COMPETENCY BUCKET

Fill your bucket with leadership tools to improve population health

### Owning Your Leadership Identity

*Learn how to be the leader you aspire to be.*

- Identify your values, vision and mission
- Recognize your strengths, gaps and impact on others
- Increase emotional intelligence
- Use techniques (e.g. mindfulness) to strengthen self-awareness and balance

### Valuing Culture and Differences

*Open yourself to diverse experiences and perspectives.*

- Gain command of concepts around identity, culture, equity, diversity and inclusion
- Model intercultural sensitivity in your position, organization and community
- Address health through an equity lens

### Developing Others

*Pay it forward by building the skills of others.*

- Give and receive feedback in a productive manner
- Practice the skills of peer and employee coaching
- Use motivation and engagement principles and practices

### Leading Positive Change

*Champion and facilitate positive change.*

- Understand different models of change management
- Communicate the need for change
- Encourage innovation

### Influencing Organizational Culture

*Nurture a positive organizational culture.*

- Recognize the elements of effective organizational culture
- Manage difficult conversations

### Creating Effective Partnerships

*Collaborate effectively across teams, organizations, and systems.*

- Build and sustain teams, networks and coalitions
- Manage and successfully resolve conflict
- Practice negotiation skills
- Create a shared vision

### Building Political Savvy

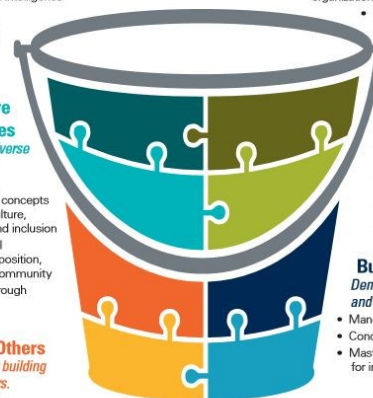
*Demonstrate political awareness and diplomacy.*

- Maneuver through power and influence
- Conduct stakeholder analyses
- Master techniques and strategies for influencing others

### Interpreting Complex Systems

*See your relevance and role in the broader system.*

- Assure understanding of trends, issues, and forecasting
- Embrace systems thinking approaches
- Exercise adaptive leadership skills



# SAVE THE DATE

## June 12-14, 2018

### 2018 Kansas Immunization Conference Vaccinating Across the Lifespan

Tony's Pizza Event Center | 800 The Midway, Salina, Kansas  
(Formerly Salina Bicentennial Center)



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (620) 235-4040



KDHEnews



@KDHE

#Immunize

## Training and Conference Announcements

### Webinar - Rural Opioid Resources: Preparing Your Organization for Future Funding Opportunities – May 7

The United States Department of Agriculture recently announced its intention to provide funds to fight rural opioid crisis. In anticipation of competitive funding opportunities, the national Organization of State Offices of Rural Health is hosting a webinar to provide a potential framework for future applicants to gather the appropriate materials in preparation for writing for one of the funding opportunities. As guidances are released, NOSORH will conduct future webinars focusing on the specifics of individual funding opportunities. Join this webinar on May 7, 2 p.m. to identify resources that may be used for selecting appropriate interventions and strategies for prevention, treatment and recovery in rural communities; identify data resources that may be used for showing need and developing a strong application; and discuss potential and current opportunities for organizations and partners to align themselves for a quick response to future funding opportunities. [Register online](#) to attend the webinar.

### Webinar - Implementing Model Practices in Your Community: Health Equity & Access to Healthy Foods Through Community Engagement Efforts – May 10

Join the National Association of County & City Health Officials for the second webinar in the three-part Implementing Model Practices in Your Community series to learn more about innovative approaches to community engagement that lead to equity and access to healthy food on Thursday, May 10, 12 – 1 p.m.. The Florida Department of Health in Manatee County will discuss their efforts to implement community-driven healthy food access in underserved communities. Their process provides a model for successful collaboration between cross-county sectors and a framework to applying multi-tiered community engagement results for program implementation. The Kansas City Health Department will discuss how strengthening a partnership between public health and community organizers led to cultivating a culture of health equity. Rather than working in the same areas but in silos, public health and a well-known community organizing group now work more efficiently and in tandem due to clearly defined mutual objectives. [Register online](#) to participate.



## Rising Stress-Related Deaths in Kansas: A Community & Socioeconomic Perspective - May 11

The Sunflower Foundation and the Kansas Health Institute are hosting an event in Topeka that will focus on the increase of stress-related deaths in Kansas; the event will be held on May 11, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mortality rates in the United States have generally been decreasing for the past 100 years. Minority populations have suffered from persistently higher death rates that reflect longstanding inequities in socioeconomic factors such as education, housing and employment.



Recent research has demonstrated mortality rates due to certain causes - such as drug overdoses, chronic alcohol abuse and suicides - among non-Hispanic Whites are now rising. This is especially true for those who are middle-aged, living in economically distressed areas and have less education.

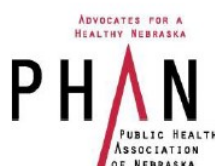
Kansas has not been spared from this phenomenon. What are the causes of the unprecedented break in the trend? And what are the implications for addressing these problems to improve health for everyone?

Join the Sunflower Foundation and the Kansas Health Institute for a keynote presentation from Dr. Steven Woolf, Director Emeritus of the Center on Society and Health at Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Woolf is an internationally-known scholar and author of the Institute of Medicine report entitled *Shorter Lives, Poorer Health*, which puts U.S. health status in an international perspective. He will present findings from a recent study that documents increasing death rates due to stress-related conditions among young and middle-aged non-Hispanic White adults in Kansas.

Following the keynote address and additional presentations on county health rankings, social determinants of health and changing demographics in Kansas, there will be two panel discussions: a community perspective and a policy, disparities and systems stakeholder perspective.

- **Community Perspective** - The first panel will focus on the implications of the study findings from a community perspective. Panelists will represent a variety of community stakeholders, including representatives from the housing, economic development and community health sectors.
- **Policy, Disparities and Systems Stakeholder Perspective** - The second panel will discuss the importance of addressing health disparities experienced by minority populations and the policy implications of the study findings at the state and local levels. Panelists will represent state-level policy leadership, expertise in health disparities and the health care system.

Lunch will be provided. While remote participation is available, the Sunflower Foundation believes the opportunity to participate in-person will enrich participants' experience. For those traveling from outside of Topeka needing assistance with travel costs, mileage reimbursement forms will be available at the meeting. [Register](#) for the event [online](#); please indicate whether you intend to participate in-person when registering.



## MINK Conference - May 17-18

The eighth annual convening of the American Public Health Association Regional VI affiliates, also known as MINK, will be meeting May 17 –18 in Des Moines, Iowa. Register to attend online. The presenters will include the President-Elect of the American Public Health Association as well as a host of public health experts to discuss environmental health, communications, and developments at the federal-level. View the [conference brochure](#) online for further details. Registration for the event is free; attendees can [register online](#).



### Professional Grant Development Workshop - May 14 - 15

The Grant Training Center will be hosting an intensive two-day grant proposal workshop is geared towards those who wish to strengthen their grant writing skills, as well as beginners who wish to acquire and master the techniques of preparing and writing winning proposals to various funding agencies. The focus will be on how to effectively write proposals in times of keen competition and limited resources. The grant workshop will be held on May 14 - 15, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Wichita State University. Through the workshop participants will learn to:

1. Navigate the world of grant procurement
2. Research and identify potential funding sources
3. Address the guidelines of federal and foundation applications
4. Find foundation and corporate giving for the state of Kansas
5. Understand the new federal guidelines for writing winning grants
6. Know the review process and how to address key points for reviewers
7. Write winning grants that stand out against scores of competing submissions
8. Develop focused and realistic budgets
9. Demonstrate the merits, excellence and innovation of your proposal
10. Package professional grant submissions

The ultimate goal is for attendees to walk away with a product specific to their interests, which includes the grant design, abstract and budget. Register for the event [online](#). If you have questions about the workshop, please call 866-704-7268. The fee for the workshop is \$595 (includes a comprehensive directory, electronic workbook, certificate of completion, and continental breakfast). A rebate of \$45.00 per person is given for two or more registrants from the same organization.

### Preconception Health Webinar - May 15



The March of Dimes North Carolina Preconception Health Campaign is hosting a series of webinars focused on preconception health. The webinars focus on improving the health of women prior to pregnancy and aiming towards better birth outcomes. Upcoming webinars include:

- *The Link Between ACEs, Preconception Health, and Birth Outcomes* – May 15, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Participants will learn about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the lifelong impact they can have on an individual's physical and mental health. Presenters will provide examples on how to effectively utilize the ACE and resiliency questionnaires and other screening tools in order to provide better informed preconception health counseling. Participants will also learn how resiliency skills and protective factors can minimize the impact of ACEs and help individuals lead healthier lives. Webinar presenters will clearly demonstrate the link between ACEs, preconception health, and birth outcomes. Register for the webinar [online](#).

### Webinar - Western Wildfires - Keeping Communities from Polluted Air – May 21

Join the National Association of County & City Health Officials to discuss the role that local health departments and jurisdictions play in preparing for and responding to wildfires and the health impacts of wildfire smoke on May 21, 12 p.m.. The webinar will start with speakers from local health departments in California and Oregon as they present a recap of the 2017 wildfires and respective organizational responses. Subsequently, academic and federal researchers will review research gaps and current tools and resources available to locals. There will also be a facilitated discussion with the subject matter experts. [Register online](#) for the webinar.

## News and Resources

### Resource: Cultural Sensitivity for Better Breastfeeding Outcomes

A mother's decision to breastfeed or not almost always comes from a place of concern. Cultivating better breastfeeding habits means respecting cultural beliefs while helping families consider evidence-based best practices. [Here](#), Stacy Davis, BA, IBCLC, who possesses 17 years of community-based health experience, shares ideas on forming relationships and utilizing a series of small steps of change to uncover what might be possible.

# Job Postings

## Dickinson County Health Department

- [Child Care Licensing and Registration Educator and Public Health Educator](#)

## Geary County Health Department

- [Medical Front Office Assistant](#)
- [Registered Nurse](#)

## Hodgeman County Health Department

- [Health Department Staff Nurse \(RN\)](#)

## Marion County Health Department

- [Staff Nurse/Child Care Surveyor](#)

## McPherson County Health Department

- [Receptionist/Clerk I](#)
- [Registered Nurse - Public Health](#)

## Reno County Health Department

- [Administrative Associate I - Medical Records](#)

## Saline County Health Department

- [Home Health Coding & Office Specialist](#)

## Sedgwick County Health Department

- [Community Health Analyst](#)
- [FIMR Coordinator](#)
- [Community Health Nurse II](#)
- [Senior Research Associate](#)

## Shawnee County Health Department

- [RN-Nurse Family Partnership](#)



Career opportunities at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment can be found [here](#).

## Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[2017 KDHE News Releases](#)  
[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)  
[Kansas Environmental News](#)  
[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)  
[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)  
[Nutrition and WIC Update](#)  
[Ready Reader](#)  
[What's Happening Wednesday \(Immunization\)](#)

## Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter, email [phc@kdheks.gov](mailto:phc@kdheks.gov).  
 Previous issues of Public Health Connections may be found at  
[http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public\\_health\\_connections.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm).

Send your public health news to  
 Katie Mahuron at [katie.mahuron@ks.gov](mailto:katie.mahuron@ks.gov).